(c) and (d) In Orissa, 1,401 rural schools were without drinking water facilities as on 1.4.2007 out of which 600 rural schools have been reported to be covered with drinking water facilities. In respect of sanitation, 68,328 toilet units have been approved in 30 districts of which 30,997 units have been constructed so far.

Extension of NREGS in the country

1363. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to extend the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ground work to extend the scheme has been completed;

(d) the funds earmarked for the purpose; and

(e) the number of additional families likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has decided to extend NREGS to all the remaining rural areas in the country with effect from 1.4.2008. A notification to this effect was issued on 28.9.2007.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. States have been directed to take up preparatory arrangements for new districts like IEC, printing and procurement of statutory documents, training of offcials and non-officials and preparation of perspective plans. A sum of Rs, 163.12 crore has been released to the States for the purpose.

(e) NREGS is demand driven. All rural households are entitled to get employment under the Act on demand. It is, therefore, not possible to make an estimate of the additional families likely to be covered.

Accountability of money sanctioned under different schemes

1364. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in some States huge amount of money has gone unaccounted and tardy implementation of schemes has been reported in these States;

(b) if so, how many States have been reported poor performance;

(c) what mechanism has been developed by the Centre to see that money sanctioned does not go unaccounted;

(d) whether Government has made any evaluation of existing schemes, if so, the details thereof, and what shortcomings have been noticed; and

(e) how many people have been benefited so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The guidelines of the rural development